

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in October was 235,182 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,587 t, the same level as that of the previous month, but 10% higher than the rate for October 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 62.62 cents per pound in September to 63.05 cents per pound in October, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) increased several times during the month of October. The price range began the month at 45.5-46.5 cents per pound. On October 4, the price range increased to 45.5-47 cents per pound; on October 8, it increased further to 46-48 cents per pound, and on October 24, it increased again to 47-49 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs increased from 47.4 cents per pound in September to 50.4 cents per pound in October.

### U.S. Trade

Total imports for consumption of aluminum for the first 3

quarters of 2002 increased 12% compared with the total for the same period in 2001. Imports were higher in two of the three categories detailed in table 6: Metal and alloys, as well as semifabricated materials, increased 15%, but aluminum scrap decreased 8%. Imports of metal and alloys from Russia have increased significantly in 2002, more than double that for the same period in 2001.

Total U.S. exports of aluminum for the first three quarters of 2002 increased slightly (1%) compared with those for the same period in 2001.

### Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 63.05 cents per pound in October to 66.06 cents per pound in November. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs fluctuated during the month of November. On November 5, the price range increased to 48.5-50.5 cents per pound, and again on November 15 to 49.5-51.5 cents per pound. On November 26, the price range decreased slightly to 49-51 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month.

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: 5/	2,637	1,770	1,210	2,980	2,560	683	3,240	8,860	1,300
2001:									
October	214	172	112	284	220	58	278	777	1,360
November	208	152	106	258	248	57	305	771	1,310
December	205	133	94	227	227	44	271	703	1,300
January-October	2,224	1,600	1,060	2,660	2,090	582	2,670	7,550	
2002:									
January	210	147	102	249	272	58	330	789	1,290
February	197	141	93	234	205	52	257	688	1,270
March	220	153	99	252	223 r/	62	285	757	1,320
April	216	148	96	245	221	65	286	747	1,310
May	228	154	98	252	221	76	297	777	1,280
June	225	150	95	245	263	71	334	805	1,320
July	238	145	100	245	228	74	302	785	1,310 r/
August	237	156 r/	101	257 r/	279	77	356	851 r/	1,340 r/
September	227	157 r/	99 r/	257 r/	235	70	305	788	1,360
October	235	168	102	270	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-October	2,234	1,520	986	2,510	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

5/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: 2/	1,810	1,350	946	823	765	706	98	88	13	13	3,630	2,980
2001:												
October	186	139	80	70	69	63	12	11	1	1	348	284
November	171	127	74	64	61	56	10	9	1	1	317	258
December	163	120	62	54	50	46	8	7	(3/)	(3/)	284	227
January-October												
2002:												
January	150	111	80	69	62	57	11	10	1	1	303	249
February	146	108	69	60	61	56	11	10	1	1	287	234
March	152	113	79	69	64	60	11	10	1	1	307	252
April	150	112	71	62	63	58	13	12	1	1	298	245
May	152	113	73	63	68	63	13	12	(3/)	(3/)	307	252
June	150	112	65	56	70	65	12	11	(3/)	(3/)	298	245
July	149	111	66	56	74	69	9	8	(3/)	(3/)	299	245
August	151	112	76 r/	66 r/	74	69	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	313 r/	257 r/
September	150	112	78 r/	68 r/	72	67	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	311 r/	257 r/
October	151	112	88	77	77	71	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	326	270
January-October	1,500	1,120	745	647	685	635	113	102	5	5	3,050	2,510

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes monthly and annual data.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN OCTOBER 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	126,000	151,000	93,400	112,000
Integrated aluminum companies	87,700	87,700	76,900	76,900
Independent mill fabricators	63,800	76,500	59,300	71,200
Foundries	9,140	11,000	8,230	9,870
Other consumers	356	427	356	427
Total	287,000	326,000	238,000	270,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	October			January-October 2/		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	26,100	106,000	92,900	39,200	801,000	790,000
Can stock clippings	1,320	21,600	21,300	1,690	190,000	191,000
Other clippings	5,570	11,000	11,000	5,570	111,000	112,000
Borings and turnings	4,360	18,900	18,900	4,360	192,000	192,000
Dross and skimmings	2,710	34,300	34,300	2,710	341,000	341,000
Total new scrap	40,100	192,000	178,000	53,600	1,630,000	1,630,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	11,500	32,500	33,000	11,000	328,000	327,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,870	2,070	2,110	1,830	23,000	23,100
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	37,000	65,600	63,000	39,500	597,000	590,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,100	8,880	8,880	4,100	88,900	90,400
Total old scrap	54,400	109,000	107,000	56,400	1,040,000	1,030,000
Sweated pig	149	977	977	149	9,790	9,810
Total all classes	94,600	302,000	287,000	110,000	2,680,000	2,670,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	October				January-October 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	4,310	2,080	1,760	4,630	17,300	17,200
380 and variations	5,610	33,500	33,500	5,570	333,000	331,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,160	4,090	4,090	3,160	40,900	40,900
No. 319 and variations	9,830	11,100	11,200	9,780	112,000	113,000
F-132 alloy and variations	2,030	1,980	1,980	2,030	19,900	19,800
Al-Zn alloys	630	59	59	630	586	673
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,680	1,680
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	1,910	1,910
Other 4/	4,810	9,210	8,780	5,240	93,900	94,000
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,700	17,800	17,800	10,700	175,000	174,000
Total all alloys	41,100	80,200	79,500	41,800	795,000	794,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	6,760	XX	XX	62,300	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,760	XX	XX	36,600	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	574	XX	XX	5,920	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	69,100	XX	XX	690,000	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	September	January-September	September	January-September	September	January-September	September	January-September
Argentina	3,420	59,600	57	421	21	404	3,500	60,400
Australia	6,670	78,600	16	45	18	108	6,710	78,800
Bahrain	2,490	12,200	1,940	12,900	--	--	4,430	25,200
Belgium	--	(2/)	793	6,950	--	450	793	7,400
Brazil	3,970	25,400	268	1,100	1,000	12,500	5,240	39,000
Canada	130,000	1,210,000	39,700	347,000	24,600	217,000	194,000	1,770,000
France	84	954	429	4,500	--	2,940	513	8,400
Germany	195	1,690	6,310	45,800	73	4,510	6,570	52,000
Ghana	--	--	--	--	719	6,950	719	6,950
Hungary	--	--	797	6,550	--	--	797	6,550
Italy	--	79	124	1,860	--	20	124	1,960
Japan	37	346	672	7,070	16	237	725	7,650
Korea, Republic of	1	3,510	545	4,300	--	99	545	7,910
Mexico	507	3,280	918	11,600	4,710	42,900	6,130	57,700
Netherlands	34	328	87	1,960	--	1,570	121	3,860
Norway	53	3,660	11	70	--	--	64	3,730
Russia	53,200	493,000	4,510	48,300	1,720	23,300	59,400	565,000
South Africa	--	15,900	2,690	22,100	--	8	2,690	38,000
Spain	14	587	21	147	--	--	35	734
Sweden	--	4	204	2,210	--	143	204	2,360
Switzerland	5,600	8,290	634	2,580	--	100	6,240	11,000
Ukraine	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	20
United Arab Emirates	4,240	46,200	--	--	--	623	4,240	46,800
United Kingdom	119	770	600	6,910	229	3,770	949	11,500
Venezuela	12,800	158,000	1,570	15,500	586	5,600	15,000	180,000
Other	12,000	24,100	6,690	54,000	3,060	29,000	21,700	107,000
Total	235,000	2,150,000	69,600	604,000	36,800	352,000	341,000	3,100,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	September	January-September	September	January-September	September	January-September	September	January-September
Australia	3	88	211	1,300	1	197	214	1,590
Belgium	84	266	342	3,060	--	59	426	3,380
Brazil	--	114	1,520	21,400	--	16	1,520	21,500
Canada	8,540	70,600	42,400	359,000	15,300	158,000	66,200	588,000
China	18	59	2,950	24,300	20,700	144,000	23,700	169,000
Czech Republic	--	(2/)	8	24	7	12	14	36
Dominican Republic	32	35	30	549	--	--	62	584
France	14	84	504	3,360	--	6	518	3,450
Germany	34	1,300	122	2,080	37	207	193	3,580
Hong Kong	10	110	293	3,220	1,270	5,900	1,570	9,230
India	3	112	22	183	788	3,420	813	3,720
Israel	10	76	125	1,210	--	3	135	1,290
Italy	--	13	149	1,480	--	3	149	1,500
Japan	185	3,010	803	7,370	1,520	20,300	2,500	30,600
Korea, Republic of	147	454	463	6,250	3,680	36,600	4,290	43,400
Malaysia	(2/)	58	33	453	--	524	33	1,040
Mexico	8,180	72,300	9,650	85,900	6,020	70,800	23,800	229,000
Netherlands	40	82	105	733	--	52	145	867
Russia	--	19	--	26	--	9	--	54
Saudi Arabia	--	(2/)	1,300	12,700	--	--	1,300	12,700
Singapore	76	166	35	1,880	6	156	117	2,200
Spain	12	55	119	639	--	501	131	1,200
Sweden	--	(2/)	82	548	--	5	82	553
Taiwan	22	169	448	5,260	2,690	20,800	3,160	26,200
Thailand	--	(2/)	281	7,200	38	690	319	7,890
United Kingdom	72	466	633	6,670	14	519	719	7,650
Venezuela	--	4	298	5,650	--	1	298	5,660
Other	36	452	1,830	22,800	426	3,220	2,290	26,500
Total	17,500	150,000	64,800	585,000	52,500	466,000	135,000	1,200,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.